

Sherburn
Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

: : of the : :
Sanitary Condition
of the District for
the Year 1920, by

H. T. HOLLINGS,

L.R.C.P. & S., Edin.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



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SHERBURN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Sherburn
Rural District Council.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my Report upon the health of your district during the year 1920.

Population.

The population of your district as given in the return of the Registrar General is :—

For Births and Deaths ...	...	2070
Population at 1911 Census	...	2254

Geology.

The district has an area of 21,078 acres, and runs longitudinally East and West. It is 12 miles in length and about four miles across at its broadest part. It divides itself naturally into two parts—North and South. The former lies low and the soil is mostly sandy in character, though certain parts near the river are very peaty and boggy. In earlier ages it is supposed to have formed part of a marine lake. On the southern side you have the commencement of the Yorkshire Wolds, which here rise to a height of about 600 feet. The formation is chalk, with a thin covering of light soil. There is an abundance of good water to be obtained from these hills.

Social Conditions.

There are no industries in the district with the exception of one small brewery, the occupation of the inhabitants being entirely agricultural.

Birth-rate.

The number of births registered in your district during the year was 64. Of this number 39 were males and 25 females, giving a birth-rate of 30·9.

Birth-rate per 1,000 living.

Rural England and Wales	...	25·4
Sherburn District ...	...	30·9

Death-rate.

During the year 14 deaths were registered in the district, giving a death-rate within your district of 6·7. Of this number 7 were males and 7 females. There were 4 male deaths transferred from without, making a total of 18. This gives us a total death-rate of 8·6 per 1,000 living.

Death-rate per 1,000 living.

Rural England and Wales	...	12·4
Sherburn District ...	...	8·6

Below I give a comparison table of deaths due to the principal diseases :—

Death-rate per 1,000 living.

Disease.	No. of Deaths.		Rate.	
	1919.	1920.	1919.	1920.
Pneumonia...	...	6	Nil	3·2 Nil
Bronchitis	2	2	1·0 ·96
Heart disease	...	3	3	1·5 1·4
Cancer	...	3	2	1·5 ·96
Phthisis	...	3	2	1·5 ·96

Infantile Death-rate.

The number of deaths of children under 1 year of age registered in your district during the year was 3, giving an infantile death-rate of 46·8 per 1,000 born.

Infantile death-rate per 1,000 born.

Rural England and Wales	...	80
Sherburn District...	...	46·8

Infectious Disease.

There were 33 cases of infectious disease notified in the district during 1920, the rate of incidence being 15·9. This number was made up as follows:— Diphtheria, 18; Pneumonia, 5; Scarlet Fever, 3; Phthisis, 2; other Tuberculous cases, 2; Erysipelas, 2; Enteric Fever, 1. Death resulted in 1 Scarlet Fever and 1 Diphtheria case.

The Diphtheria cases occurred at varying intervals throughout the year in the Ganton district. As they arose the cases were at once removed to the Isolaton Hospital at Driffield. The disease did not pass to other members of the household in any of the cases, the new cases always arising in a different house to the previous one. There was usually an interval of several weeks between the various cases. Every effort was made to find the cause but nothing definite was discovered. Milk and water supplies were analysed, the reports being satisfactory. All the school children were examined for carriers, but none found. Certain irregularities were discovered in the milk distribution, and these were remedied.

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

The day-school at Ganton has been twice closed owing to the Diphtheria epidemic, and other schools have been closed for minor infectious disease. School intimations of

disease are sent to and made use of by your Medical Officer. Tuberculous cases are sent to the County Sanatorium at Withernsea. In all cases of Diphtheria, anti-toxin is promptly used, and swabs are sent away to discover carriers, and in all doubtful cases. Clinics for venereal disease are provided at York and Hull. All vaccinations are performed by Public Vaccinators.

Housing.

The housing question is still urgent. Owing to difficulties in regard to tenders no progress has been made with your scheme for building 48 new houses. There are many bad houses and numerous cases of overcrowding in your district, and as I have pointed out on previous occasions nothing can be done to remedy these until new ones are built. It behoves you, therefore, to do everything in your power to forward your building scheme. I feel confident you will do this, and I hope that before long you will have a sufficiency of good cottages in your district, so that the workers living in it may be comfortably and decently housed.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There is no system of sewerage in your district, and the drainage of the houses and various yards leaves much to be desired.

Scavenging.

May I again urge upon you the adoption of some system of scavenging. The condition of many of the ash-pits, &c., is deplorable.

Closets.

These are mostly on the bucket system, and many of them are much too near the houses.

Water Supply.

No complaints have been received during the year with regard to either the quantity or the quality of the water supply.

Slaughter-houses.

There is no public abattoir in the district, and the private slaughter-houses are in a satisfactory condition. No complaint with regard to any kind of food or meat has been made to me.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

The milk supply appears to be sufficient. The dairies are inspected twice a year, and your Sanitary Inspector reports to me that there is room for great improvement in the conditions obtaining in them.

Hospitals.

There are no Hospitals situated in your district. Infectious cases are sent to the Driffield Isolation Hospital, and the general cases to the Scarborough Hospital. The last-named institution is largely used.

Poor-Law Relief.

The amount of Poor-law relief granted in the district during the last year was £249 1s. 0d.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Owing to your district being so small, this work is done from County Headquarters at Beverley. There are no cerificated mid-wives in the district. Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum are treated by the Medical Attendant.

Sanitary Inspection.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector is appended to my report. The sanitary condition of the day-schools in the various villages is satisfactory.

In conclusion, gentlemen, I would again urge the following points upon your attention:—

1. The adoption of a system of public scavenging.
2. Strict attention to dangers arising from defective wells.
3. A close supervision over the poorer and older classes of houses.
4. An improved water supply.
5. Attention to the sanitary condition of the various yards in the district.

Thanking you for your courteous treatment during the past year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

HAROLD T. HOLLINGS.

“Roseville,” Sherburn,
April, 1921.

SANITARY WORK CARRIED OUT DURING 1920.

Dwelling-houses inspected	...	...	...	...	24
,, notices served	...	...	...	...	10
New houses built...	...	...	...	...	1
Have Building Bye-laws been adopted ?					
In course of adoption.					
Dwelling-houses disinfected after cases of ordinary					
Infectious disease	...	...	...	...	15
Dwelling-houses disinfected after cases of Phthisis ...					
Schools disinfected after cases of ordinary Infectious					
disease	...	...	...	...	1
Dwelling-houses found overcrowded ...					
Privies converted to W.C.'s ...					
,, „ pail closets	...	...	...	...
Offensive Trades inspected ...					
Number of nuisances found ...					
,, „ abated	...	...	...	...
Water Supplies—					
Houses newly supplied from water mains	...	...	...	...
New Wells made	...	...	...	...
New Bore Wells made	...	...	...	...
Wells closed, water unsafe	...	...	...	...
Samples of water sent for examination ...	...	...	...	...	2
Water Certificates granted for new houses in					
Rural Districts	...	...	...	...
Dairies and Cowsheds—					
Have Regulations been adopted ...	...	...	...	...	Yes.
Date of adoption	...	...	...	...	1905
Number of Dairies and Cowsheds on register	...	...	...	...	29
Number of Cows	...	...	...	...
Visits to Cowsheds and Dairies—					
All visited in October, 1920.					
Defects found, 2 ; remedied, 2.					

Slaughter-houses—

No Public Slaughter-houses.

Only two Private Slaughter-houses which are in order.

Unwholesome Food condemned—

Meat ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fish ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fruit ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other foods ...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Common Lodging-houses—

Number on Register
Visits to
No. of defects found			remedied		

Canal Boats inspected
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HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING ACT, 1909.	
Number of dwelling-houses inspected under and for the purposes of Section 17 of the Act of 1909 ...	
Number of dwelling-houses found unfit for human habitation	
Number of dwelling-houses made fit for habitation without formal representation	
Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to the making of Closing Orders	
No. of Closing Orders made	
Number of dwelling-houses in which the defects were remedied without the making of Closing Orders	
Number of dwelling-houses which after the making of Closing Orders were put into a fit state for human habitation	

General character of the defects found to exist—

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Any other information and particulars of the work of
Inspection under Section 17—

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